

COSTIMES PRACTICAL OR JUST CHIC FOR WINTER SPORTS

Fashion Makers Meet the Needs of Those Who Delight in Outdoor Pastimes as Well as Those Who Cling to Club Lounges and Hotel Verandas

By ELEANOR HOYT BRAINERD.

WINTER sports have been influencing American social life, and consequently the American woman's wardrobe, more and more perceptibly during recent years.

There was a time when it was the exceptional society woman who skated or snowed or tobogganed or skinned about on ice boats, but that was before the country was rediscovered, before country places sprang up, mushroom wise, and the winter house party was imported and country clubs began to put in storm windows and adequate heating plants and to flood their tennis courts.

Even yet there are hosts of folk who consider outdoor sports in Arctic temperatures penance rather than pleasure, who could not be lured to Canada or the Adirondacks in December by anything short of abduction and who, if under strong pressure they do go as far as Tuxedo or Ardsley in midwinter, confine their sports career to fireside bridge.

But even these rebels need winter sports clothes, though these same winter sports clothes may be adapted to summer sports. Palm Beach, the West Indies, all the Southern resorts are inviting and so close at hand, California, with its wonderful winter climate, attract thousands of visitors each winter and all of the women who flock to these places take heed of sports clothes, though they may have no intention of indulging in any sport more violent than motoring or sitting on the hotel veranda.

And lest any woman should escape, New York city itself has gone in for winter sports, has broken out violently in skating places of various types. One may skate in a hotel winter garden or on a hotel roof, or a flood of skaters may be seen on a park lake. You may not like skating, but the skating clothes are irresistible, and in order to wear them with impressiveness one must at least buy skates and carry them in a good looking skate bag.

Just how widespread this sports fad is only those who enter it to realize, but the manufacturers of sports materials and sports clothes arise and call fashion blessed, and their winter season is now almost as profitable as their summer season.

There is putting the thing too strongly, but their winter season is busy and profitable enough to justify energetic efforts to meet its demands. This fall the shops seem to be better supplied than ever before with novelties for sports wear, and though it is too early for exclusive Southern season models, which usually blossom after the holidays, many of these models are ready, though not shown along with the heavier things for Northern wear.

SWEATERS AND SCARFS

SPORTS costume accessories for this winter are likely to tempt many a woman to wild extravagance. No one can rest content with one sweater, one hat, one scarf out of the bewildering array.

One sports suit will do, perhaps. Even one sports suit is not absolutely necessary. If one has plenty of sweaters and skirts and separate coats and one piece frocks—an extravagant "if" you see—but even when one has the suit specially dedicated to sports, one is likely to buy all the other things also, so there is something in denying oneself the suit.

There are the sweaters, for instance. How to choose:

A heavy soft combed wool for the coldest days and for wear sometimes without a coat.

A light weight Angora, deliciously warm, lovely in texture and color.

A knitted or Angora tricot slip over sweater, scarf girdled, a little low in the neck, rather more trim than the last sweater.

A cobwebby Shetland sweater that will give the maximum of warmth with the minimum of bulk under a coat.

A silk sweater or a tricot sweater, for trimmed for beauty; for showy wear, for use where a wool sweater is perhaps too warm or too unpretentious.

One wants them all, and at their best. All of them come a trifle high.

But they are better than they ever were before, particularly the woolen sweaters.

There are cruditities of course, particularly in the domestic models that have to replace the imported garments so much more generally than usual, and that bear testimony to the difficulties in the matter of dyes and color.

Quantities of lovely colors and color combinations, and many little details that are new and original.

The vogue of the scarf is one of the striking features of the season, and with or without sweaters to match scarves of wool or silk are swathed around the throats or shoulders of most women one sees in outing garb.

Lovely scarves are offered in silk, in plain color bordered in contrasting color or merely banded with contrasting color on the ends, in shot effects in two colors, stripes, checks, plaids; but the wool scarves, while not so expensive, are even more interesting.

There are the very wide luxuriously soft and light Angora scarves in tartan plaids or plaids less pronounced, big enough for a Scotoman's plaid, ample enough and warm enough to serve as a wrap. They are hard to resist, those plaids.

The narrower Angora scarves are usually in plain colors, with or without banded ends, though they, too, are sometimes plaided or checked or striped, and every woman can find one of a color that will make her look her best. It may match her sweater or contrast with it. There may be a one



A blue wool jersey suit with moleskin, a yellow one with seal and a brown topcoat for the riding habit.

The latter are of many kinds, some designed for practical service and comfort in actual out of door sport, others built up with an eye to city rinks and country club lounges. One may have whatever one wants—and can afford, for some of these things are decidedly expensive.

If a woman will not content herself with a sports costume less chic than the imported model from Chanel or any other French specialist in sports clothes, and must have that costume three parts far to one part cloth, dressing the part may be a very costly affair; but luckily very good copies and modified versions of most of these

models are to be found among the American made offerings. Luckily, too, it is not necessary to put one's money into a costume available only for sports wear.

Many of the suits, frocks, coats, designed primarily for ordinary street wear are this season of a sort that makes them altogether charming for outing purposes. One can supplement them by hat, scarf, sweater, etc., emphasizing their sports note; but even among the millinery and furs dedicated to street toilet there is much that would lend itself amiably to the sports costume.

The straight, comfortably full one piece frocks of serge and other woolens or of velvet worn with jaunty short coats, fur capes, big fur or wool scarves, heavy sweaters, or whatever one chooses for warmth's sake, are very satisfactory for skating, whether the skating is done indoors or outdoors. For the indoor rinks even the loveliest

of velvet and satin are fashioned into skating costumes, with cleverly designed furs and hats to lend them the right accent.

One designer sends across seas a skating costume of honey color velvet heavily trimmed in brown fur, accompanied by a fur turban, cape and muff, and several lovely red velvet and fur models have been designed for similar uses; but it is a question whether the less elaborate and more practical costume is not always in better taste for sports wear.

Many modish women affect, even on indoor rinks, a pronounced common sense in clothes. Possibly there is a touch of gay audacity about hat or scarf or other accessories; but the suit or the frock is eminently practical as well as good looking.

There are costumes of heavy tricot, tweed, homespun, the rough soft cheviote, fur trimmed or worn with furs, made on comfortable lines, the

coat loose enough for wear over a sweater or leather surcoat, the skirt short enough and full enough for freedom of motion but neither short nor full to the point of exaggeration. Of such is the ideal sports costume, provided originality of detail and excellence of workmanship are put into it.

Within these bounds, however, it is possible to find the gay and piquant as well as the practical. All of the beautiful reds of the season, bright yet soft, are shown in these woolens, and where one of these reds is becoming it is a delightful color for out of door sports. Lovely warm yellows and greens are on the list too, and the fashionable dark colors, warmed by fur are vastly attractive.

Heather mixtures with bright brown for prevailing tone with greens, reds, yellows, purples and blues flecked vaguely through them, are made up into admirable sports costumes, whether in rough surfaced tricot, tweed or cheviote,

or long, over a straight moderately full skirt in soft wool with fur trimming and worn with a Russian turban of fur is a costume that, while suitable for skating, is equally suitable for general wear. One can add a skate bag of the wool and fur to mark the changed estate when skating is the thing in hand.

There are, too, Russian coats entirely of fur, belted, pocketed and collared in the fur, matched with a fur turban and muff and worn over a cloth skirt in the color of the fur that are calculated to move the strongest feminine soul to envy if encountered among an outdoor skating throng, and there are funny little full skirt coats of fur falling only just below the waist line that, worn over a one piece frock of soft wool or velvet, will look uncommonly chic on the ice as well as in the street.

Of course the big loose top coat must be taken into consideration when one thinks of winter sports clothes, for not only is such a coat or a big loose fur coat essential for winter motoring, but many women prefer to wear a one piece frock and sweater or blouse skirt and sweater under a coat instead of donning a sports suit. The coat is slipped off during skating or energetic

exercise, to be easily slipped on again for rest time.

And never before were there as many desirable coats of this type, coats so warm, ample, enveloping, yet so light in weight, so soft, so comfortable and so picturesque. The big soft collars of the cloth that drape about throat or shoulders are in many cases quite as effective as big fur collars, and good models are to be had at prices rather astonishingly low, though it must be remembered that the popular velvet finished woolens in first class quality are too high in price to be put into a cheap coat and that if one wants a coat for wear it is the part of wisdom to choose a woolen of a little different class. One may not like it quite so well just at first, but one will like it much better than one would like the other after a month's hard wear.

For the woman who rides even in wintry weather there are top coats in the usual oxford, blacks and tans, but there are also knowing looking coats in plain dark browns and blues. It is possible also to have soft slightly heavy checked breeches under one's riding coat, and with the infinite variety of soft velours and felt shapes in riding hats the riding costume has lost much of its traditional severity.

Outfits for Skating and More Strenuous Exercises May Be Gay and Piquant and Also Warm and Serviceable—Sweaters, Scarfs and Caps in Bewildering Array

and the houses given over specially to sports clothes show many good looking rough wear costumes in these colorings.

Frequently these practical models are made with detachable skirts over breeches or bloomers, and for snowshoeing, skiing, winter hiking and other vigorous sports the skirt may be left off. In one model the skirt may, instead of being laid aside, be converted into a cape if its owner feels the need of extra warmth or would rather carry it in that way.

Breeches and bloomers no longer create a ripple of surprise or comment in sports circles. The generally accepted cross saddle riding habit has done away with that, and though some critics will over departed modesty more rejoice over increasing common sense.

For the women who carry their winter sports zeal to the point of life in the woods and mountains—and an increasing number of women really do take winter holidays in such Spartan fashion—breeches and leggings are the ordinary wear and the costume probably makes no skirt compromise at all, though an additional skirt is a nice provision because it extends the sphere of the costume.

For the extremist in cold weather sports also is the wool or fur lined leather jacket, either to be worn under the coat, or more bulky made and lavishly pocketed, to serve as coat itself above a skirt or breeches or bloomers of sturdy woolen stuff. This is even warmer than the ordinary fur coat, and makes an excellent shooting costume item.

Brown leather is the usual thing, but one French maker has sent over a delectable though practical costume with short straight full close colored leather coat of a lovely soft rather dark gray over a skirt of checked gray cheviote. A narrow facing of old blue cloth turns over the high collar too, and there is a touch of the blue cloth on the little crush hat of gray leather.

Tartan plaid woolens as well as checks are used both for trimming the sports suit and for the sports suit skirt below a coat or sweater of plain color, or a coat above a plain skirt, are even pressed into service for the whole costume, though here the checks come into play more effectively than the plaids.

The Angora weaves in plaid make warm looking collars and cuffs for plain color, and the Angora in plain color too is liked for such purposes, but the vogue of the separate scarf makes the sports suit collar less important than the collar of the ordinary

garment, unless it happens to be of fur. High chin collars or Russian collars of fur are liked rather better for the sports suit than the deep turndown or cape models, and the Prussian lines are often used for the costume, in some manner which shall not indicate its real purpose.

A Japanese Chippendale design in gold and black is used in panels to alternate with those in plain gold Japanese cloth. This is very effective when the woodwork of the room is black or Congo red. Another Japanese novelty is a soft pastel shaded grass cloth with silver or gold oak leaves shining through the soft coloring.

This paper is used in rooms where the woodwork is ivory white and the hangings of velvet or silk are chosen to match one color in the paper.

Mikado cloth is used in a number of the black and silver designs, in plaids, stripes of different widths, and in stripes with medallion designs running over them. One unusual paper is of the Mikado cloth in black with long

silver peacock feathers scattered over its surface.

Linen paper is a pleasing novelty. The paper is shown in all the shades of white and plain colors usually found in plain papers. The paper is heavy in texture and resembles a coarsely woven linen fabric. It is especially good to use with the large, flowered cut out borders.

For panel use the gorgeous tree pattern with peacocks lodged in the branches is popular. This paper is expensive, but is beautiful and as true to nature in color as though hand painted. The gray colored panels are used to alternate with panels of the color of the ground of the tree design and the draperies are made of the chintz to match.

Soft colored tapestry patterns are numerous, and the chintz to match them is fascinating. The papers are a little too sombre and heavy to be placed in a dimly lighted room, for they need plenty of light to bring out their rich coloring. Bedroom papers in block print designs, with the line prints to match for drapery use, are a present fashion; the day bed, a few chairs and bed covers are done in the prints, then a few pieces are covered with plain goods in a dominant color of the print design, by way of breaking the monotony.

Celling papers were never more beautiful than they are this season, including a great deal of silver, gold and rainbow coloring, as well as the papers that shade dark at the picture rail, fading to a neutral tint in the centre of the room.

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There are, too, Russian coats entirely of fur, belted, pocketed and collared in the fur, matched with a fur turban and muff and worn over a cloth skirt in the color of the fur that are calculated to move the strongest feminine soul to envy if encountered among an outdoor skating throng, and there are funny little full skirt coats of fur falling only just below the waist line that, worn over a one piece frock of soft wool or velvet, will look uncommonly chic on the ice as well as in the street.

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For the woman who rides even in wintry weather there are top coats in the usual oxford, blacks and tans, but there are also knowing looking coats in plain dark browns and blues. It is possible also to have soft slightly heavy checked breeches under one's riding coat, and with the infinite variety of soft velours and felt shapes in riding hats the riding costume has lost much of its traditional severity.

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A brush wool sweater with a velvet hat, a seal skin tam and some wool scarf and cap sets.

SHORT CUTS IN MENDING

EFFECTIVE short cuts in dress repairing practiced by mending shops offer valuable suggestions to the home seamstress. As the basic principle of the new fangled mending is efficiency, the maximum result for the minimum labor, ingenuity counts more than fine needlework. The efficiency method is not to mend a worn place with hundreds of tiny stitches but where possible to conceal the blemish by an applied trimming or to remove the defect and inset new material in some manner which shall not indicate its real purpose.

Many of the new trimming details accommodate themselves to the needs of the amateur repairer. In this class the applied pocket stands near the top of the list of first aids to damaged garments.

The patch pocket is easily made and effectively used on separate skirts and blouses as well as on one piece dresses and outer garments. The shape may be varied to meet the needs of the individual case and the fabric may be the same as the